

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

Forest Department - Diversion of 147.42 Ha. forest land, in favour of Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) for expansion of their Ramagundam OCP-II in RG-III area located in Adrial RF of Karimnagar East Division in Karimnagar District of Andhra Pradesh – Permission – Accorded – Orders – Issued.

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**ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.I) DEPARTMENT**

**G.O Ms. No. 79**

**Dated:21-09-2013.**

**Read the following:-**

1. From PCCF, AP, Hyderabad, Lr.Rc.No.30176/09-F1, dt.25-11-2010.
2. State Govt. letter No.9659/For.I(I)/2010, dt.11-01-2011.
3. From GoI, MoEF, Lr. F. No.8-109/2005-FC, dt.19-07-2012.
4. State Govt. letter No.9659 /For.I(I)/2010, dt.29-05-2013
5. From GoI, MoEF, Lr. F. No.8-109/2005-FC, dt.01-08-2013.

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**ORDER:**

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad in his letter 1<sup>st</sup> read above, has submitted a proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 147.42 Ha. of forest land in Adrial RF of Karimnagar East Division in Karimnagar District of Andhra Pradesh, in favour of Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) and requested to forward the same to Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, for according necessary approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

2. The said proposal was sent to Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, for their approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 vide State Government letter 2<sup>nd</sup> read above.

3. The Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, vide their letter 3<sup>rd</sup> read above, have accorded their approval in-principle (Stage-I) under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for the proposal, subject to fulfillment of certain conditions as stipulated therein.

4. The State Government vide letter 4<sup>th</sup> read above, have furnished compliance report on the conditions stipulated by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, while according in-principle (Stage-I) approval.

5. Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, in their letter 5<sup>th</sup> read above, have accorded their approval (Stage-II) under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 147.42 Ha. of forest land, in favour of M/s. Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) for expansion of their Ramagundam OCP-II in RG-III area located in Adrial RF of Karimnagar East Division in Karimnagar District of Andhra Pradesh, subject to certain conditions as stipulated therein.

6. Government after careful examination of the proposal, hereby accord permission to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, for diversion of 147.42 Ha. of forest land, in favour of M/s. Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) for expansion of their Ramagundam OCP-II in RG-III area located in Adrial RF of Karimnagar East Division in Karimnagar District of Andhra Pradesh, subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
- (ii) Compensatory afforestation over the non-forest land equal in extent to the forest land being diverted shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department from funds realized from the user agency.

- (iii) The non-forest land which is transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department for the purpose of Compensatory afforestation shall be declared as Reserved Forest under Section-4 or Protected Forest under Section-29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the local Forest Act. The Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 must report compliance within a period of 6 months and send a copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land under Section 4 or Section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, as the case may be, to the Central Government for information and record.
- (iv) Following activities shall be undertaken by the User Agency at the project cost:
  - (a) A plan containing appropriate mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of streams shall be prepared and implemented
  - (b) Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds in the appropriate area within the mining, lease to arrest soil erosion.
  - (c) Construction of check dams, retention / toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour.
  - (d) Stabilize the overburden dumps by appropriate grading / benching so as to ensure that angles of repose at any given place is less than 28 and
  - (e) Strict adherence to the prescribed top soil management.
- (v) The State Government shall realize the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and transfer the same to the ad-hoc CAMPA. under intimation to this Ministry.
- (vi) The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, if required.
- (vii) The User Agency through the State Forest Department shall undertake fencing, protection and afforestation of the safety zone area (7.5 meter strip all along the outer boundary of the area identified to undertake mining), at the project cost.
- (viii) The User Agency through the State Forest Department shall undertake afforestation on degraded forest land, one and half time in extent to the area used for safety zone.
- (ix) The State Government shall create and maintain penal compensatory afforestation on additional non-forest land twice in extent to the 118.57 hectare forest land located in the Upperlakesoram Reserve Forest which was utilized for creation of compensatory afforestation treating it as non-forest land, from funds realized from the user agency.
- (x) The additional non-forest land double in extent to the 118.57 hectare forest land located in the Upperlakesoram Reserve Forest which was utilized for creation of compensatory afforestation treating it as non-forest land, which has been transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department Creation of penal compensatory afforestation shall notified as reserved forest under Section-4 or Protected Forest under Section-29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Sections(s) of the local Forest Act. The Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservator) Act, 1980 must report compliance within a period of 6 months and send a copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land under Section-4 or Section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, or under the relevant Section (s) of the local Forest Act, as the case may be, to the Central Government for information and record.

- (xi) The State Government shall create and maintain penal compensatory afforestation from funds realized from the user agency over degraded forest land twice in extent to the portion of the 448.90 hectares of forest land in the Upperlakesoram Reserved Forest Block kept under possession by the SCCL without obtaining approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 after excluding the 118.57 hectares of forest land which was utilized by the SCCL for creation of compensatory afforestation (CA) considering it as non-forest land for which penal CA has separately been stipulated [i.e.  $2 \times (448.90 - 118.57 = 330.33) = 660.66$  hectares]
- (xii) The period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957, or Rules framed there under, subject to a maximum period of 30 years.
- (xiii) The User Agency shall undertake de-silting of the village tanks and other water bodies located within five km from the mine lease boundary so as to mitigate the impact of siltation of such tanks / water bodies, whenever required.
- (xiv) The User Agency shall undertake mining in a phased manner after taking due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan shall be executed by the user agency from the very first year, and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Government of Andhra Pradesh and the Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office (Southern Zone), Bangalore. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan are not being executed by the User Agency, the Nodal Officer or the Chief Conservator of Forests (Central) may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, such reclamation activities are satisfactorily executed.
- (xv) No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- (xvi) The User Agency shall provide firewood preferably alternate fuel to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the adjacent forest areas..
- (xvii) The boundary of the mining lease and safety zone shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, forward and back bearing and distance from pillar to pillar.
- (xviii) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
- (xix) Any other condition that the Regional Office (Southern Zone), Bangalore of this Ministry may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.
- (xx) The User Agency shall submit annual report on status of compliance to conditions stipulated in this approval, to the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry and the State Government of Andhra Pradesh and
- (xxi) The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad is directed to take further necessary action in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

M. SAMUEL,  
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

To  
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.

**Copy to:**

The Inspector General of Forests,  
Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests,  
Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110 003

The Chairman & Managing Director,  
Singareni Collieries Company Ltd., Hyderabad.

SF/SC.

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER.